

Information for Consumers

The Weighmaster Enforcement Program seeks to provide customer confidence when buying or selling bulk products based on quantities represented on a weighmaster certificate by ensuring uniformity, fairness and honest competition in the marketplace.

The Division of Measurement Standards Investigators and Specialists, work jointly with County Weights and Measures Officials to enforce California's weighmaster laws and regulations within the State.

A weighmaster is a person or business that, for hire or otherwise, weighs, measures, or counts a product and issues a written statement of the quantity. The statement is referred to as a weighmaster certificate and is a legal document. The weighmaster certificate is used to buy or sell the product described on the certificate. All [weighmaster certificates](#) are required to have certain information.

A charge for a service can also be based on the quantity represented on the weighmaster certificate. Charges for moving household goods is one example of this. A weighmaster may also provide a weighing service to the public or other businesses, for a fee, and issue weighmaster certificates for the customer's use. This type of location is known as a public scale. Over 78 billion dollars a year changes hands in California's economy that is based on weighmaster certificates.

Businesses that are licensed as weighmasters include, but are not limited to, agricultural processors, dealers, packers, and growers; livestock feed yards and auction yards; construction including rock, sand, gravel, earth, concrete, and asphalt paving materials; bulk fertilizers; landscape companies that deliver; fish processors; scrap and salvage materials; timber; wineries; moving and storage; and general transportation companies.

Violations of the weighmaster laws are misdemeanors. Violators may be subject to civil or criminal proceedings. Additionally, a complaint may be filed with the district attorney against them for violations.